

We envision Illinois as a place where every young child – regardless of race, ethnicity, income, language, geography, ability, immigration status, or other circumstance – receives the strongest possible start to life so that they grow up safe, healthy, happy, ready to succeed, and eager to learn.

Illinois Early Learning Council

March 21, 2022 11:00 AM-1:30 PM

Join via [Webex](#) | Meeting Number: 245 480 20191 | Meeting Password: hpHVuXTJ335

If joining by phone, dial: 1-312-535-8110

Agenda

11:00 AM Welcome & Introductions

Materials:

- ELC December 2021 Meeting Minutes

Level Setting: Early Learning Council Planning and Future Direction

Presenters/Facilitators:

- Martin Torres, ELC Co-chair & Deputy Governor for Education, Office of the Governor JB Pritzker
- Phyllis Glink, ELC Co-chair & Executive Director, Irving B. Harris Foundation
- Dr. Jamilah R. Jor'dan, Executive Director, Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development, Office of the Governor JB Pritzker

11:45 AM: American Institutes for Research (AIR) Presentation/Discussion: 2021 Needs Assessment—The Data Matrix Project and The Family Needs Study

Presenters/Facilitators:

- Dr. Garcia-Arena, Principal Researcher, American Institutes for Research

Materials: 2021 Needs Assessment

12:15 PM: GOECD/INCCRRA/IDHS Update/Discussion: Early Childhood Enrollment Campaign (Program)/ECE Enrollment/Community Outreach Grants

Presenters/Facilitators:

- Rebecca Livengood, Department Director, Strategic Communications, INCCRRA
- Lori Orr, Director of Workforce Policy, GOECD
- Kirstin Chernawsky, Director, Division of Early Childhood, Illinois Department of Human Services

Materials:

- Early Childhood Enrollment Campaign (Program) Status Update--Powerpoint

Racial Equity Definition: A racially equitable society values and embraces all racial/ethnic identities. In such a society, one's racial/ethnic identity (particularly Black, Latino, Indigenous, and Asian) is not a factor in an individual's ability to prosper. An early learning system that is racially equitable is driven by data and ensures that:

- Every young child and family regardless of race, ethnicity, and social circumstance has everything s/he/they need to develop optimally;
- Resources, opportunities, rewards, and burdens are fairly distributed across groups and communities so that those with the greatest challenges are adequately supported and not further disadvantaged; and
- Systems and policies are designed, reframed, or eliminated to promote greater justice for children and families.

Racial Equity Priorities:

- 1) Align and standardize race/ethnicity data collection and reporting;
- 2) Evaluate and identify whether processes for distributing resources exacerbate racial disparities, including agency contracting;
- 3) Address race/ethnicity disparities in terms of workforce compensation and advancement;
- 4) Eliminate racial/ethnic disparities for children participating in all programs that contribute to school readiness and life success by addressing racial disparities in enrollment in preschool for 3- and 4-year-olds and in prenatal to age 3 services.

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12:45 PM: IDHS Update/Discussion: Strengthen and Grow Child Care Grants Rollout

Presenter/Facilitator:

- Bethany Patten, Associate Director, Office of Programs, Division of Early Childhood, Illinois Department of Human Services

1:05 PM: Presentation/Discussion: Family Advisory Committee- Mentoring Program

- Dena Chapman, Co-Chair, Family Advisory Committee/Family, Community and Engagement Manager, Birth to Five Illinois

Materials

- FAC Mentoring Presentation

1:15 PM: Update: Raising Illinois

- Karen Berman, Senior Director, Illinois Policy, Start Early

1:20 PM: Public Comments & Announcements

- **Early Learning Council 2022 Meeting Schedule: Meeting schedule will be posted to the GOECD website.**

1:30 PM: Closing Comments and Adjourn

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